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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for the territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southern States; and by Frederick C. Eastman, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Miss Bertha Green, Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

New York

Jamestown.—A Latin club, "Latinae Sociae," was organized in the Jamestown High School during the latter part of the school year 1916-17. The membership, which was entirely voluntary and for which no academic credit was given, was limited to the faculty members of the department and the girls of the Cicero and Vergil classes, about forty becoming charter members of the organization. In addition to the usual officers, a committee was chosen to prepare a Latin section for the local high-school publication.

In the club four classes were represented—three Cicero and one Vergil—and it was decided that each group should present one program. These differed somewhat in character. One Cicero class took the subject "Roman Women." The stories of several interesting Roman women were told, the program closing with the incident of Cornelia and her jewels, presented in Latin in dramatic form. Another Cicero class centered their program around Cicero and his times, giving a Latin play, *Coniuratio*, dealing with the conspiracy of Catiline. Still another Cicero class gave a program on "Ancient Myths in Modern Literature." First, the classic myth was told; then came various examples of its use in modern literature, sometimes serious, sometimes humorous. In the latter we found the parodies of John G. Saxe very useful. The Vergil class gave two programs: one on "Vergil and His Works," and the other on "Roman Education." In the latter they were assisted by a grammar-school Latin class which gave a Roman school scene in Latin.

At each meeting Latin songs were sung, including a translation of "America," odes of Horace, "Gaudeamus Igitur," and other student songs. In order to insure a good attendance, without fining the members for non-attendance, and in order to create a wholesome interest by rivalry, a system of counts was adopted, whereby counts were awarded to each class for illustrative work, special features, and attendance. As no counts were given for

attendance unless all the members of the class were present, each student became responsible for the welfare of her group. The club season closed with a picnic, at which the honor guests were the members of the class having the largest number of counts.

On the evening of May 1 the Latin pupils of the seventh and eighth grades of the Sherman Street Grammar School, under the direction of their teacher, Miss Smith, gave a very successful entertainment. The program included the Latin plays "Ludus" and "Medicus" from *Decem Fabulae*, a Vestal Virgins' Drill, and Latin songs.

This program, with slight changes, was given before the two grammar schools of the city, two of the grade schools, and the Latin Club of the High School.

To arouse the interest of the parents in the study of Latin a column appeared in each of the daily papers of the city, telling of the work of the Latin Department. This article was written by one of the pupils of the department.

Oregon

Portland.—The Classical Association of the Pacific States held a special meeting in Portland on July 11 and 13, in connection with the session of the National Education Association. The meeting was a great success, the attendance at the two sessions being about one hundred, and eighty, respectively. Dr. A. P. McKinlay presided at the first session, Professor Dunn at the second. The following program was presented: "The Need to Define Anew the Values of Latin," Milton E. Blanchard, Mission High School, San Francisco, California; the following paper was read by Miss Leida H. Mills, of the Lincoln High School, Portland: "Classics and the Man of Science," Norman C. Thorne, Lincoln High School, Portland, Oregon; "Classics and the Man of Affairs," W. L. Brewster, Former City Commissioner, Portland, Oregon; "The Continued Tale of the Historical Novel," Frederic S. Dunn, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon; "The Correlation of Linguistic and Scientific Courses," Stephenson Smith, Portland, Oregon; "The Direct Method: Three Years After," A. P. McKinlay, Lincoln High School, Portland, Oregon; "Teachers of Latin," Susan M. Dorsey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Los Angeles, California; "Exaggeration and Other Elements of Humor in Roman Literature," Frank F. Potter, Washington State College, Pullman, Washington; "Correlating Latin with History," Leona Larrabee, Lincoln High School, Portland, Oregon.

The following resolutions were adopted on the death of Professor Haggett, of the University of Washington:

WHEREAS, It is with a deep sense of grief that we have learned of the recent death of Arthur Sewall Haggett, Professor of the Greek Language and Literature, and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts in the University of Washington; and

WHEREAS, We keenly realize the untimely loss which has thus befallen the cause of Hellenic studies, sound scholarship, and sane living; therefore, be it hereby

Resolved, That we, the members of the Classical Association of the Pacific States in convention at Portland, Oregon, July 11-13, 1917, wish to give this expression to our feeling of profound sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent by our secretary to Mrs. Haggett and her family, and to the *Classical Journal*, and that they be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Pennsylvania

The Classical Association of Pittsburgh and vicinity begins its eleventh year with a joint meeting with the Allegheny County Principals' Round Table. The program will consist of a debate on the subject "Why Not Drop Latin?" Professor R. B. English, of Washington and Jefferson College, president of the Association, will present the argument for the classics. The Association holds six regular meetings a year, the programs being usually given by its own members. During the past two years it has had as guests from outside its territory Mr. A. S. Perkins, of the Dorchester High School, of Boston, Miss Frances Sabin, of the University of Wisconsin, and Professor W. B. McDaniel, of the University of Pennsylvania. The Classical Association of the Atlantic States and the local Association met in joint session at the University of Pittsburgh in April, 1917. The Association is planning a year of unusual activity for 1917-18. The officers are: president, Professor R. B. English; vice-president, Mr. N. E. Henry, Peabody High School, Pittsburgh; secretary-treasurer, Professor Evan T. Sage, University of Pittsburgh.

The Classical Club of the Pennsylvania College for Women, Pittsburgh, presented the *Menaechmi* in Latin at the college on April 28, 1917. The production was directed by Miss Green and Miss Lovejoy, of the Latin department, and Miss Kerst, of the dramatic department.

The Classical Club of the University of Pittsburgh gave in 1916, *Menaechmi* in English, and in 1917, as part of the Commencement exercises, Professor Wright's *Votes for Women*. The latter play was given out of doors. Professors Ullman and Sage, of the Latin department, were in charge of both plays.

Miss Florence K. Root, formerly assistant professor of Latin in Smith College, has been appointed dean of Pennsylvania College for Women, Pittsburgh.

Wisconsin

Sinsinawa College.—A feature of alumnae week at Sinsinawa College was the presentation of *Antigone* by students of that institution. The weather was clear, and all conditions were favorable for what was a most beautiful and impressive performance. "The Mound" hardly yields to Epidauros or the Acropolis itself in beauty and appropriateness for the presentation of the classic drama. The young women who took the various parts acquitted themselves exceedingly well. The performance was a success in every way.

Classic lands in war time.—It has been suggested to me that the readers of the *Classical Journal* would be interested in a brief account of the status of classical studies in Greece and Italy as affected by the war. In general, it may be said at once that in this, as in so many other spheres of intellectual activity, the war has had a most deterrent effect. The supremely engrossing battle for the right, hardly to be distinguished from a struggle for existence, has left scant leisure or energy for those other matters which are less pressing. Many of us feel strongly that the eternal verities are more firmly held today than ever before, but the contemplative life does not flourish amid the conditions of war. Of Greece, I must speak with great brevity, as my knowledge of archaeological events there during the past three years is very incomplete. The American School at Athens has had two successful campaigns at Corinth, including the excavation of Homer's Ephyre. Operations incident to the Dardanelles expedition gave occasion to archaeologists attached to the French Expeditionary Corps of the Orient to investigate, and to publish in the *Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique*, the necropolis of Elaious in Thrace. British archaeologists have taken under their care the fortunes of the sporadic material turned up in the British trenches about Salonika, and an interesting local museum will surely be the result.

In Italy, the outstanding feature has been the laudable perseverance of the national authorities in the work both of excavation and of publication.¹ The latest issues of the *Notizie degli Scavi* and the *Monumenti dei Lincei* seem, if possible, still more interesting reading than their predecessors. The work at both Ostia and Pompeii is proceeding satisfactorily, though with reduced staffs. The museum personnel is active as ever, and from my own knowledge I may mention the Museo di Villa Giulia in Rome, which is systematically investigating the site of Veii and has already achieved results that without exaggeration may be styled sensational; the National Museum at Palermo, where the new director, Dr. Ettore Gâbrici, has undertaken a thorough rearrangement of the extremely important and varied material in his care; and the Syracuse Museum, where Dr. Orsi courteously showed me the results of his remarkable excavations near the great temple on Ortygia, which are to form the subject of a separate volume of the *Monumenti dei Lincei*.

As for the activity of foreign institutions in Italy, it has been sadly curtailed by the war. The French School of Rome has lost heavily by deaths on the field of battle, and at present consists solely of the director, Monsignor Duchesne, and a couple of *réformés*. The British school has fortunately completed its move to the new quarters in the Valle Giulia, where Mrs. Strong, the assistant director, represents the faculty and keeps the library open as a center for work; Dr. Ashby, the director, is with the British Red Cross Unit on the Italian front. Our own American Academy, owing to the continuance of our

¹ For further details, I may refer to my reports in *Art and Archaeology* and in *The Year's Work in Classical Studies*.

neutrality until February, 1917, has been able to maintain its activities with but slight curtailment down to the time of writing, and has issued the first volume of its new publication, *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome*. It is now our turn to share the burden and the privilege of the war, and, if the next few months or years find little to chronicle in the way of positive contributions to art or the humanities from the hands of our number, we may at least hope to have done our share in defending the spiritual heritage of the race.

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME
June 1, 1917

A. W. VAN BUREN

The Publicity Committee of the Classical Association has just published a fifth edition of their pamphlet entitled "Arguing with Bob." Thirty thousand copies of this pamphlet have now been demanded. Copies may be obtained by addressing The Publicity Committee, 11 L.A., Iowa City, Iowa.